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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/805,688

03/22/2004

Richard Paul Miller

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EXAMINER

KUHNS, ALLAN R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1791

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

11/26/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/805,688

Applicant(s)

MILLER ET AL.

Examiner

Allan Kuhns

Art Unit

1791

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 September 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20, 30 and 31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 30 and 31 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6-12 and 17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 13-16 and 18-20 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

1.Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. This claim is indefinite with regard to its description of the plurality of rollers, in particular, the aspect that the rollers extend "through" the lower platen. From the disclosure and relevant drawings, it is not clear that the rollers extend "through" the lower platen. Clarification is required.

2.The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3.Claims 1-4 and 6-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakagawa (6,475,410). Nakagawa discloses or suggests the basic claimed press including an upper platen and lower platen that are selectably movable toward each other for conformally but nondeformingly (note column 12, line 33) receiving a vessel (the vessel is formed by molds 4 and 6) therebetween so that vessel surfaces in conformal contact with the upper platen and the lower platen remain substantially undeformed while the vessel is filled with material. It is submitted that the vessel of Nakagawa, as supported by upper and lower platens, is capable of remaining substantially undeformed when pressurized material is filled within the vessel. Since Nakagawa discloses at column 12, line 27 that the contents of the vessel are to be polymerized by heat, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to

provide heating means to either the upper or lower platen in order to enable the vessel (mold) to be heated to a predetermined temperature which would cause polymerization.

The aspects in claims 1-4 that (1) the vessel is an air handling unit and (2) a roof assembly does not in and of itself serve to define the structure of the press. Concerning claims 6 and 7, it is well known to heat molds or platens by heated fluids or heating elements, and doing so would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art in order to provide heat for polymerization. Claims 8-11 are related to the process conducted and thus are not directly related to the press structure. Concerning claim 12, the press of Nakagawa, as illustrated in Figure 2, contains a plurality of upper and lower portions, and it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide means for making either the upper or lower platen movable in order to provide access to conduct a molding operation.

4.Claim 13 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

5.Claims 30 and 31 are allowed.

6.Applicant's arguments filed August 13, 2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant's arguments are considered to be moot by the examiner based on the revised ground of rejection introduced in this Office action.

7.Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Allan Kuhns whose telephone number is (571) 272-

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1202. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday from 7:00 to 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christina Johnson, can be reached on (571) 272-1176. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


ALLAN R. KUHN
PRIMARY EXAMINER AU 1732